
 <p>DEFENCE ESTATES <i>Delivering Estate Solutions to Defence Needs</i></p>	<p>From: Lieutenant Colonel P Norrington-Davies OBE LLB WELSH HEADQUARTERS DEFENCE TRAINING ESTATE DE Operations Land Warfare Centre, Warminster, Wiltshire BA12 0DJ</p> <p>Telephone: 01985 222838 Facsimile: 01985 222514 e-mail: paul.norrington-davies869@land.mod.uk Internet Site: www.defence-estates.mod.uk</p>	 <p>DTE 0473 22 June 2006</p>
---	--	--

SUSTAINABLE MILITARY TRAINING ON DARTMOOR PROPOSED PROCESS FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL APPRAISAL

We recently wrote to you informing you of the continuing need for light force military training on the Dartmoor Training Area and of our intention to re-negotiate our licences to train there beyond 2012. This follow-on letter sets out the process by which the impacts of training on the Training Area will be considered and decisions made. To enhance the management plans supporting current military training a number of initiatives¹ are already being taken forward by Defence Training Estate (DTE).

One of these initiatives is an Environmental Appraisal of the effects of continuing military training. The objective of the Environmental Appraisal is to assess the environmental effects of continuing military training up to and beyond 2012 and to enable a transparent and detailed level of consultation and debate between all interested stakeholders. The outcomes will inform the way in which DTA is used for training, the Training Area Environmental Management System and management plan.

This Environmental Appraisal will largely parallel the process required by a statutory Environmental Impact Assessment under the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England and Wales) Regulations (1999). However as there is no statutory framework to support the Appraisal we propose following the process detailed below.

The Appraisal will be undertaken by DTE with the support of Entec as lead consultants.

HQ DTE will:

- collate all data, consultee responses and any other relevant documentation pertinent to the EA;
- prepare all the documentation and reports required for the preparation of the EA; and
- manage the public consultation process.

The Scoping Report and Environmental Appraisal will be published on www.dartmoor-ranges.co.uk. If you wish to be informed when these are published please email postmaster@dartmoor-ranges.co.uk or

¹ Studies carried out in 2004/05:- The Continuing Need for Military Training on Dartmoor, External Audit of DTA's Environmental Management System, National Vegetation Classification Pt 1, Tourism Associates Socio-Economic Report, Ecological Review, Landscape Review, and Archaeological Review. As these studies are finalised they will be published on www.dartmoor-ranges.co.uk. Studies either planned or being conducted during 2005/6/7 include a National Vegetation Classification Pt 2, a bird survey with RSPB, a noise trial, and a fixed point photography record.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

write to SO2 Environment, Dartmoor Project, Headquarters Defence Training Estate, Land Warfare Centre, Warminster, Wiltshire, BA12 0DJ.

The Dartmoor Steering Group (DSG) has, as a Government appointed Body, a key role to play in this process. It will monitor the consultation process, attempt to reconcile views expressed and inform the Secretaries of State for Defence and the Environment of any issues that cannot be resolved.

Environmental Appraisal Process

Step	Deliverable	Method/Action By
1.	Pre Scoping Report Consultation	DTE hold face to face meetings with key stakeholders and wider public consultation via the DTA Web site (www.dartmoor-ranges.co.uk)
2.	Scoping Report	DTE prepare Scoping Report
3.	Scoping Report	DTE submit Scoping Report to DSG
4.	Scoping Report	Published Scoping Report on the DTA website for public consultation for two months
5.	Comments from Scoping Report	DTE collate all comments and include them where appropriate into the final version of the Scoping Report
6.	Scoping Report (Final Version)	DTE send final Scoping Report to DSG and then distribute externally
7.	Environmental Appraisal	DTE undertake Environmental Appraisal in full collaboration with interested stakeholders
8.	Environmental Appraisal	Final report to be submitted to DSG and placed into the public domain for a 4 month consultation period
9.	Environmental Appraisal	DTE collate all comments and include where appropriate into the final version of the Environmental Appraisal
10.	Environmental Appraisal	Final version of the Environmental Appraisal submitted to the DSG for their comment and to the Duchy of Cornwall
11.	Environmental Appraisal	Environmental Appraisal submitted to the Secretaries of State for Defence and the Environment

We will shortly publish our Military Options Paper on www.dartmoor-ranges.co.uk . This Paper leads on from The Continuing Need for Military Training on Dartmoor Paper and examines different ways in which the military need might be met.

Yours truly

Paul Norrington-Davies



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE